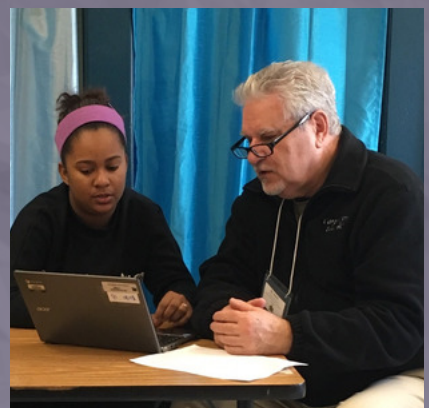
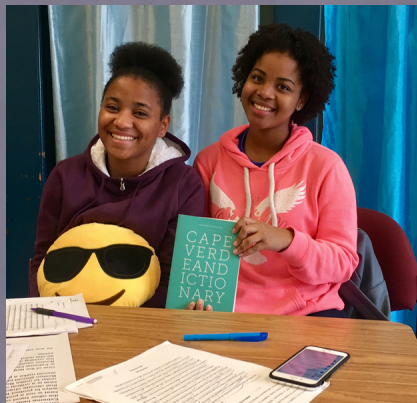


*Write***Boston**

Building a Community of Writers



Promoting **deep learning through writing** for urban youth in Massachusetts

2018 Annual Report



771

students & educators
served

.....

12,000+

students
indirectly served
(ripple effect)

2,286

one-on-one tutorials

163

teen newspaper articles

5

communities served across
Eastern Massachusetts

Why do we write?

Every young person has dreams and a voice.

The ability to effectively communicate can open the door to their dreams: a good college, a meaningful job, and full social agency.

WriteBoston helps students develop strong, sophisticated academic writing and literacy skills – the kind that unlock school success, college access, and career opportunities. We partner with students and educators to draw on the assets of youth to become multicultural, multilingual leaders of the future.

we write... TO BE AGENTS OF CHANGE

Teens have the power to change conversations. At Teens in Print, students connect the dots between their academic writing skills and life outside the classroom. Writing about issues that matter to them, teens create a platform for youth across the city. As Boston's only citywide high school newspaper, Teens in Print (TiP) operates as a powerful out-of-school-time program that prepares historically underrepresented young people to engage in the news, build critical writing skills for college and careers, and share their powerful voices.



In fall 2017, Teens in Print hosted its first youth conference, planned and conceived by teens. TiP students and experts co-facilitated workshops on topics surfaced during the 2016 election: immigration, hate crimes, and fake news. Spotlighting the power of youth voice, the teens were featured in the Boston Globe.

The February 2018 shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School shook the nation. **TiP students knew they needed to respond.** After a unanimous vote to change the March newspaper's cover story, four youth spent part of their February vacation drafting a heartfelt response. They brainstormed at the WriteBoston office, held a photo shoot on the State House steps, interviewed a local gun reform expert, and finalized TiP's first-ever editorial. TiPsters would later hand a copy of the newspaper to Parkland student activists at a Harvard Kennedy School #neveragain forum.

125

teens served through programming & publication

6

program sites throughout the school year

"People don't think teenagers have a voice or can speak about grown-folk things. Here I am doing the research, making voices of the unheard heard... It's powerful to speak the truth." Kenneth Bufford, senior, METCO student

we write... TO FOLLOW OUR DREAMS

A college application essay, complex research paper, or persuasive speech - these assignments can intimidate even the most confident young writer. For students at Boston International High School, a Boston public high school comprised entirely of recent immigrants to this country, these writing tasks carry extra challenge. WriteBoston's **Writing Center at Boston International** provides students with a range of English language levels the 1:1 attention they need to master the writing process. The Writing Center is a warm, welcoming space that promotes creativity, courage of thought, and academic risk-taking.



2,286

**one-on-one
writing tutorials**

346

**students
served**

9/10

**students who used
the Writing Center
3+ times reported
improved writing
skills**

244%

**growth in total
tutorials over
last year**

“My dad taught physics at a college in Ethiopia but here he works two jobs at a parking garage to make enough money for us to scrape by. My mom learned where she could buy the berbere and shiro to cook us dinner. She **made this new place our home**. I witnessed my parents struggling to make my life easier in the U.S. and realized it was time for me to wipe my tears.”

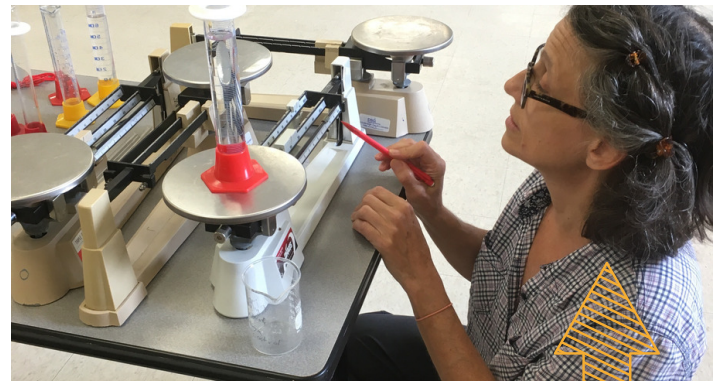
12th grade student, internship application

“I feel lucky to have the chance to meet [Boston International students] and maybe be a helpful part of their day.... The experience has made me **more aware of the incredible diversity of stories and backgrounds** that everybody has. I have come to admire many immigrant families and students greatly for their tenacity and insistence on seeking out better lives for their children and loved ones.” **Volunteer tutor**

we write...

TO PREPARE STUDENTS TO REALIZE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

True social change takes a village. WriteBoston helps teachers, schools, districts, and education organizations make meaningful progress for their students. We work to ensure that every adult who supports students has the expertise they need to be effective. Through dynamic partnerships with educators and schools, WriteBoston's professional development and coaching builds students' instructional foundation, ensuring that a generation of youth has the literacy skills to graduate and thrive.



Strong reading and writing skills are a necessity, no matter what college or career path is on the horizon. At Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, a WriteBoston instructional coach **supports academic and vocational teachers** as they build the literacy skills students need to succeed in their chosen fields. From carpentry to culinary arts, students must be flexible, fluent communicators.

Boston is the nation's number one biotech hub. To help prepare students for jobs in science and tech, WriteBoston developed a set of **literacy-based methodologies for science teachers**. These best practices were rolled out in two summer institutes for middle and high school science teachers in Boston and the Gateway Cities. When students grow their discipline-specific reading and writing skills, their overall science mastery grows.

"As teachers, especially at a turnaround school, we are inundated with "professional development," but WriteBoston has by far surpassed any other teaching support offered to our school... [the coach's] help has had a huge impact on me, and in turn, my students' achievement. Her influence, guidance, and support has led to my students becoming better writers and more motivated learners."

Special Education, ESL, and English teacher at Madison Park High School

300+

**educators
served**

8

**school districts & education
organizations supported**

90%

**of educators report
increased effectiveness**

OUR FY18 FINANCES

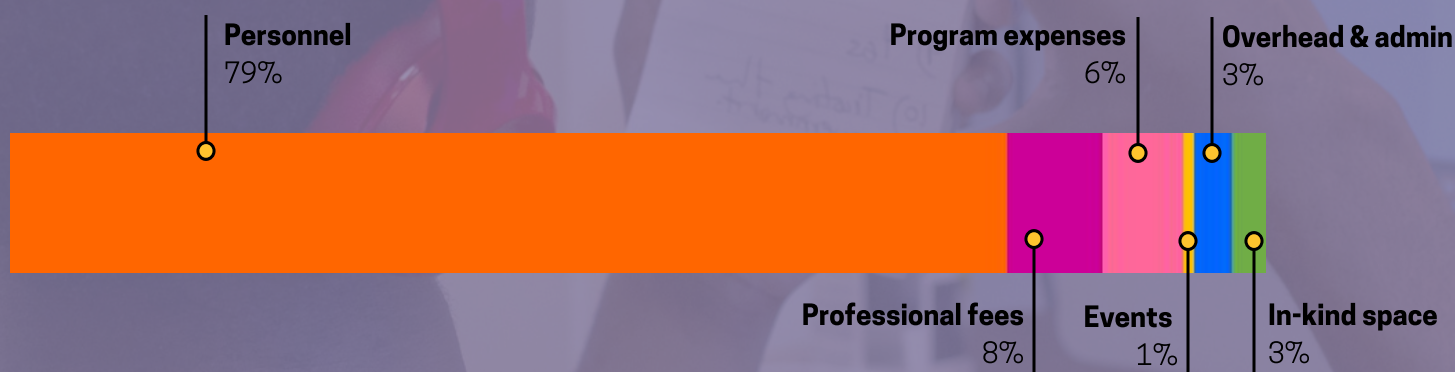
In FY18, we made a down-payment on sustainability. As a result of a momentous operating surplus, WriteBoston established a 4-month cash reserve (*new to the organization*). We earned a prestigious Cummings Foundation Sustaining Grant of \$50K, renewable for 10 years, providing a foundation for growth in the years to come.



Co-directors Jessie Gerson and Sarah Poulter accept a Cummings Foundation Sustaining Grant in spring 2018.

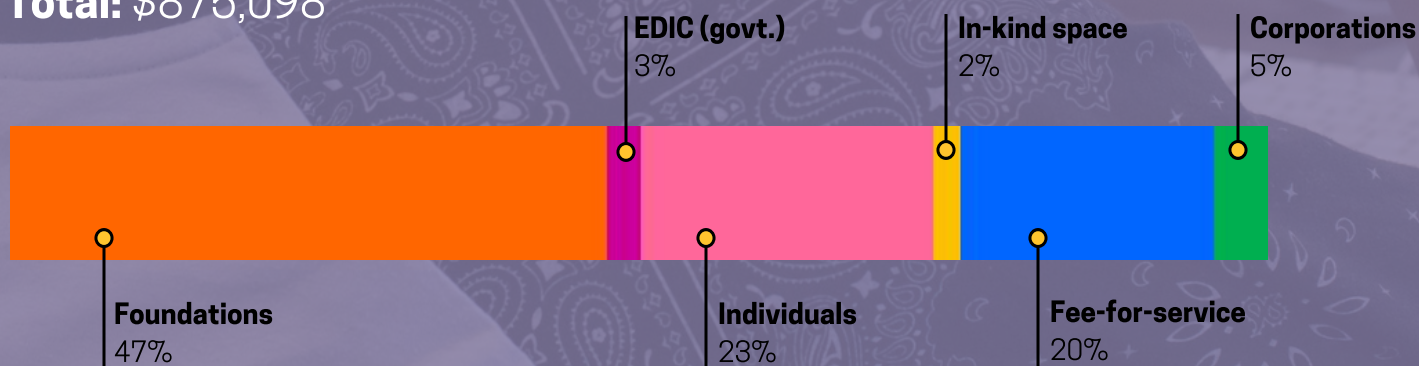
EXPENSES

Total: \$659,076



REVENUE

Total: \$875,098



Thanks to the remarkable generosity of donors and supporters, **we've committed to serving 20,000 new youth across Massachusetts in the next decade.**

HOW DO WE CREATE CHANGE?

WriteBoston's unique approach includes targeted professional development support for educators and powerful direct service to students. By targeting essential adults in the school 'eco-system'—classroom teachers, literacy coaches, school administrators, and youth development staff—WriteBoston is able to reach exponentially more students, ensuring that they have the necessary writing and analytical skills to graduate.

WriteBoston's three program strands—tailored **professional development** services, a **student journalism program**, and **in-school writing centers**—are united by our mission to center and strengthen the voices of Massachusetts youth.



**Teens in Print
Youth Newspaper**



**Writing
Centers**



**Educator Professional
Development**

MISSION

WriteBoston promotes deep learning through writing. We offer training and coaching for teachers, along with writing opportunities for students, built on the premise that powerful thinking and writing are inseparable.

VISION

WriteBoston believes that writing is essential to student achievement. We believe all young people can be flexible, thoughtful communicators and problem solvers when writing is embedded in daily learning.

thank you

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